

# Overcoming Excuses for Doing God's Will

Exodus 4:<sup>1</sup> And Moses answered and said, **But,**

**behold,** they will not believe me, nor

**hearken** unto my voice: for **they will say,**

The LORD hath not appeared unto thee. <sup>2</sup> And the LORD said

unto him, **What is that in thine hand?** And he

said, A rod. <sup>3</sup> And he said, Cast it on the ground. And he cast it

on the ground, and it became a serpent; and Moses fled from

before it. <sup>4</sup> And the LORD said unto Moses, Put forth thine

hand, and take it by the tail. And he put forth his hand, and

caught it, and it became a rod in his hand: <sup>5</sup> **That**

**they may believe** that the LORD God of

their fathers, the God of Abraham, the God of Isaac, and the

God of Jacob, hath appeared unto thee. <sup>6</sup> And the LORD said

furthermore unto him, **Put now thine**

**hand into thy bosom.** And he put his

hand into his bosom: and when he took it out, behold, his hand was leprous as snow. <sup>7</sup> And he said, Put thine hand into

thy bosom again. And he put his hand into his bosom again; and plucked it out of his bosom, and, behold, it was turned

again as his *other* flesh. <sup>8</sup> **And it shall come to pass, if they will not believe thee, neither hearken to the voice of the**

**first sign, that they will believe the voice of the**

**latter sign.** <sup>9</sup> And it shall come to pass, if they will not

believe also these **two signs**, neither hearken unto thy

voice, that thou **shalt take of the water** of the river,

and pour *it* upon the dry *land*: and the water which thou takest out of the river shall become blood upon the dry *land*. <sup>10</sup>

**And Moses said unto the**

**LORD, O my Lord, I *am* not eloquent,**

neither heretofore, nor since thou hast spoken unto thy servant: but I *am* slow of speech, and of a slow tongue. <sup>11</sup> And the LORD said unto him, **Who hath made man's mouth?** or who maketh the dumb, or deaf, or the seeing, or the blind? have not I the LORD? <sup>12</sup> Now therefore go, and **I will be with thy mouth, and teach thee what thou shalt say.** <sup>13</sup> And he said, O my Lord, send, I pray thee, by the hand *of him whom* thou wilt send. <sup>14</sup> And the anger of the LORD was kindled against Moses, and he said, *Is not Aaron the Levite thy brother?* **I know that he can speak well.** And also, behold, he cometh forth to meet thee: and when he seeth thee, he will be glad in his heart. <sup>15</sup> And **thou shalt speak unto him,** and put words in his mouth: and I will be with thy mouth, and with his mouth, and will teach you what ye shall do. <sup>16</sup> And he shall be thy spokesman unto the people: and he shall be, *even* **he shall be to thee instead of a mouth,** and thou

shalt be to him instead of God. <sup>17</sup> And thou shalt take this rod in thine hand, wherewith **thou shalt do signs.**

<sup>18</sup> And Moses went and returned to Jethro his father in law, and said unto him, **Let me go, I pray thee,** and return unto my brethren which *are* in Egypt, and see whether they be yet alive. And Jethro said to Moses, Go in peace. <sup>19</sup>

And the LORD said unto Moses in Midian, Go, return into Egypt: for all the men are dead which sought thy life. <sup>20</sup> And Moses took his wife and his sons, and set them upon an ass,

and he returned to the land of Egypt: and **Moses**

**took the rod of God in his**

**hand.** <sup>21</sup> And the LORD said unto Moses, When thou

goest to return into Egypt, see that thou do all those wonders before Pharaoh, which I have put in thine hand: but **I will**

**harden his heart,** that he shall not let the people go. <sup>22</sup>

And thou shalt say unto Pharaoh, Thus saith the LORD, Israel *is* my son, *even* my firstborn: <sup>23</sup> And I say unto thee, Let my

son go, that he may serve me: and if thou refuse to let him go, behold, I will slay thy son, *even* thy firstborn.

<sup>24</sup> And it came to pass by the way in the inn, that **the LORD met him, and sought to kill him.** <sup>25</sup>

Then Zipporah took a sharp stone, and cut off the foreskin of

her son, and cast *it* at his feet, and said, **Surely a bloody husband *art* thou to me.** <sup>26</sup> So he let him

go: then she said, **A bloody husband *thou art,***

**because of the circumcision.** <sup>27</sup> And the LORD

said to Aaron, Go into the wilderness to meet Moses. And he

went, and met him in the mount of God, and kissed him. <sup>28</sup>

And **Moses told Aaron all the words of the**

**LORD** who had sent him, and all the signs which he had commanded him. <sup>29</sup> And Moses and Aaron went and gathered

together all the elders of the children of Israel: <sup>30</sup> And **Aaron**

**spake all the words** which the LORD had spoken unto

Moses, and did the signs in the sight of the people. <sup>31</sup> **And**

**the people believed:** and when they heard that the

LORD had visited the children of Israel, and that he had looked upon their affliction, then they bowed their heads and worshipped.

1. What will people think? 4:1 And Moses answered and said,

**But, behold, they will not believe**

**me, nor hearken** unto my voice: for **they**

**will say,** The LORD hath not appeared unto thee.

- a. We make excuses about what people will think even when we know what God wants us to do
- b. Moses was convinced that they would not believe him
- c. God gave Moses signs he could use
  - i. His rod would turn into a snake and even be able to eat up the snakes that the magicians made <sup>2</sup> And the LORD said unto him, **What is that in thine hand?** And he said, A rod. <sup>3</sup> And he said, Cast it on the ground. And he cast it on the ground, and it became a serpent; and Moses fled from before it. <sup>4</sup> And the LORD

said unto Moses, Put forth thine hand, and take it by the tail. And he put forth his hand, and caught it, and it became a rod in his hand: <sup>5</sup> **That they**

**may believe** that the LORD God of their fathers, the God of Abraham, the God of Isaac, and the God of Jacob, hath appeared unto thee.

- ii. Moses would pick up his snake-rod by the tail and still be protected
- iii. Moses would place his hand in his robe and it would become leprous and healthy again <sup>6</sup> And the LORD said

furthermore unto him, **Put now thine hand into thy bosom.** And he

put his hand into his bosom: and when he took it out, behold, his hand *was* leprous as snow. <sup>7</sup> And he said, Put thine hand into thy bosom again. And he put his hand into his bosom again; and plucked it out of his bosom, and, behold, it was turned again as his *other* flesh. <sup>8</sup> **And it shall come to pass, if they will not**

**believe thee, neither hearken to the voice of the first sign, that they will believe the voice of the latter sign.**

iv. He would be able to pull water from the river and turn it to blood <sup>9</sup> **And it shall come to pass, if they will not believe also these two signs,** neither hearken unto thy voice, that thou **shalt take of the water of the river, and pour *it* upon the dry *land*:** and the water which thou takest out of the river shall become **blood upon the dry *land*.**

- d. God gave Moses everything he would need to complete his assignment-God's will for his life
- e. God has a plan for your life. He will give you what you need to His will for your life
- f. Are you allowing what others think to hinder you from doing what God wants you to do?
- g. Isn't it time to quit making excuses? Time to decide to step out by faith and do what ever it is that God is dealing with you about!



2. I am not able to do it? <sup>10</sup> **And Moses said unto the LORD, O my Lord, I am not eloquent,** neither heretofore, nor since thou hast spoken unto thy servant: but I *am* slow of speech, and of a slow tongue.

- a. This is another common excuse. We have dreams of big things for God. We want to do them but believe that we are not able
- b. God's first answer is to remind Moses that He made his mouth and was able to give him all the help he needed <sup>11</sup>

And the LORD said unto him, **Who hath made man's mouth?** or who maketh the dumb, or deaf, or the seeing, or the blind? have not I the LORD?

- c. God promised to be with Moses' mouth and teach him what to say. No one could ask for greater reassurance <sup>12</sup>

Now therefore go, and **I will be with thy mouth, and teach thee what thou shalt say.**

- d. Moses responses in doubt and rebellion <sup>13</sup> *And he said, O my Lord, send, I pray thee, by the hand of him whom thou wilt send.*
- e. So if Moses will keep rebelling against God's will then God will send Aaron to do the talking <sup>14</sup> *And the anger of the LORD was kindled against Moses, and he said, Is not Aaron the Levite thy brother? **I know that he can speak well.*** And also, behold, he cometh forth to meet thee: and when he seeth thee, he will be glad in his heart.
- f. Moses would simply tell Aaron what to say and if he really did have a speech impediment. <sup>15</sup> *And **thou shalt speak unto him,*** and put words in his mouth: and I will be with thy mouth, and with his mouth, and will teach you what ye shall do. <sup>16</sup> *And he shall be thy spokesman unto the people: and he shall be, even **he shall be to thee instead of a mouth,*** and thou shalt be to him instead of God.

- g. Do you see how laughable this excuse was? Moses will speak the rest of the story. He was simply trying to get out of doing what God had for Him
- h. God had an answer for every part of Moses argument about being unable to do the work
- i. God will also take care to give you the ability that you need to do His will for your life. You may need to move slowly, prove yourself, grow and learn, but you can be used of God

3. I haven't been a spiritual leader in my home<sup>25</sup> Then Zipporah took a sharp stone, and cut off the foreskin of her son, and cast *it* at his feet, and said, **Surely a bloody husband *art* thou to me.**

a. Moses had left Egypt because he was a believer.

Hebrews 11:24 By faith Moses, when he was come to years, **refused to be called the son of**

**Pharaoh's daughter;** <sup>25</sup> **Choosing**

rather to suffer affliction **with the**

**people of God,** than to enjoy the

pleasures of sin for a season; **26 Esteeming the reproach of Christ greater riches** than the treasures in Egypt: for he had respect unto the recompence of the reward. **27** By faith he forsook Egypt, not fearing the wrath of the king: for he endured, as **seeing him who is invisible.**

- b. He wanted to serve God but on meeting his wife and starting a family he let slide things that were very important to his faith
- c. His wife obviously didn't understand the truths about circumcision
  - i. Had Moses not told her anything?
  - ii. Did Moses not teach his wife about his faith?
  - iii. The child had not been circumcised on the eighth day
- d. As Moses goes to lead Israel out of Egypt he has not even been leading his own family. He has simply been living. He has allowed things to develop however they developed
- e. His wife saw circumcision as cruelty rather than the beautiful sign that it was to a Jewish man

- f. How is your spiritual leadership at home?
  - g. Are you teaching your wife and helping her grow in her faith?
  - h. Does she understand the Word of God because of your leadership?
  - i. Do they know you as a real man of God, faith, character, integrity?
4. I have not been living out my faith <sup>24</sup> **And it came to pass by the way in the inn, that the LORD met him, and sought to kill him.**
- a. Could this be the biggest excuse you have for not serving God?
  - b. You didn't worry about doing God's will in the life of your children when they were small
  - c. You didn't teach them or your wife what to do
  - d. You know a lot of truth but you aren't living it out
  - e. You have rebelled against God and before He can use you He must break you and make you realize that He expects obedience

f. How can you tell others to do and be what you aren't and refuse to do

5. Afraid to go alone.<sup>27</sup> **And the LORD said to Aaron, Go into the wilderness to meet Moses. And he went, and met him in the mount of God, and kissed him.**

a. Amazingly God provides for Moses so that he can do the work. He sends friends--his brother

b. When you step out to do God's will you will find some very sweet fellowship with others that have the same heart and goals <sup>28</sup> **And Moses told Aaron all**

**the words of the LORD** who had sent him, and all the signs which he had commanded him.

c. Having others to go with is a blessing. We often need help especially when we are first getting started in the ministry God has for us <sup>29</sup> **And Moses and Aaron went and**

**gathered together all the elders of the children of Israel:**

d. Aaron does exactly what God said he would. He talks to the Jews. He shows them the power of God <sup>30</sup> **And**

**Aaron spake all the words** which the LORD

had spoken unto Moses, and did the signs in the sight of the people.

- e. God touched the hearts of people and great things happened. They were ready to believe and to follow <sup>31</sup>

**And the people believed:** and when they heard that the LORD had visited the children of Israel, and that he had looked upon their affliction, then they bowed their heads and worshipped.

- f. What are you waiting for? What is holding you back?
- g. Why do you not step forward and let God use you?
- h. He will raise up everything you need to do the work. He will provide the friends. He will provide the mentors
- i. Step out and see God work instead of living half the life He called you to live!